

**APPROVED MINUTES
KING WILLIAM COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of King William County, Virginia, was held on the 25th day of September, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building and via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hodges called the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION BY A BOARD MEMBER

Not needed.

AGENDA ITEM 3. ROLL CALL

The members of the Board of Supervisors were polled:

Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski	Present
Supervisor, 3rd District: Stephen K. Greenwood	Present
Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr. – Vice Chair	Present
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Present
Supervisor, 1st District: William L. Hodges – Chair	Present

AGENDA ITEM 4. MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Chairman called for a moment of silence.

AGENDA ITEM 5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM 6. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

Vice Chair Garber made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Supervisor Moren seconded. The Chairman called for any discussion. The members were polled:

Supervisor, 3rd District: Stephen K. Greenwood	Aye
Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr. – Vice Chair	Aye
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: William L. Hodges – Chair	Aye

AGENDA ITEM 7. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items were:

- a. Approval of Minutes:
 - i. August 14, 2023 Work Session Draft Minutes
 - ii. August 21, 2023 Joint Work Session Draft Minutes
 - iii. August 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Draft Minutes

- b. **Resolution 23-66** - Declaring October 2023 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- c. **Resolution 23-67** - Designating Four Rural Rustic Roads - E. St. Johns Church Road, Route 627; W. Spring Forest Road, Route 617; W. St. Johns Church Road, Route 627; and Trimmers Shop Road - Route 624
- d. **Resolution 23-73** - Amending the FY 2024 Budget Capital Improvement Plan for Roll-Forward of FY 2023 Broadband Initiative Appropriation
- e. **Resolution 23-74** - Commending Lauri A. Betts on the Occasion of her Retirement from King William County and the Regional Animal Shelter

Supervisor Moskalski made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Supervisor Greenwood. The Chairman called for any discussion. The members were polled:

Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr. – Vice Chair	Aye
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski	Aye
Supervisor, 3rd District: Stephen K. Greenwood	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: William L. Hodges – Chair	Aye

RESOLUTION 23-66

PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels; and

WHEREAS domestic violence is widespread and affects over four million Americans each year; and

WHEREAS one in three Americans have witnessed an incident of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS children that grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS domestic violence costs the nation billions of dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelters, foster care, sick leave, absenteeism, and non-productivity; and

WHEREAS only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to this heinous crime; and.

WHEREAS Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the King William County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and asks the citizens of King William County to work together to eliminate domestic violence from our community.

DONE this the 25th day of September, 2023.

RESOLUTION 23-67
DESIGNATING FOUR RURAL RUSTIC ROADS
E. ST. JOHNS CHURCH ROAD, ROUTE 627, W. SPRING FOREST ROAD, ROUTE 617,
W. ST. JOHNS CHURCH ROAD, ROUTE 627, AND TRIMMERS SHOP ROAD - ROUTE 624

WHEREAS Section 33.2-332 of the Code of Virginia permits the hard surfacing of certain unpaved roads deemed to qualify for designation as a Rural Rustic Road; and

WHEREAS any such road must be located in a low-density development area and have no more than 1500 vpd; and

WHEREAS the Board of Supervisors of King William County, Virginia ("Board") desires to consider whether the following four roads each be designated a Rural Rustic Road:

- (1) E. St. Johns Church Road, Route 627, From: Route 30 To: Route 30
- (2) W. Spring Forest Road, Route 617, From: Route 30 W To: Route 30 E
- (3) W. St. Johns Church Road, Route 627, From: Route 30 To: Dead End
- (4) Trimmers Shop Road, Route 624, From: Route 640 To: Dead End; and

WHEREAS the Board is unaware of pending development that will significantly affect the existing traffic on these roads; and

WHEREAS these roads are in the Board's six-year plan for improvements to the secondary system of state highways; and

WHEREAS the Board believes these roads should be so designated due to each road's qualifying characteristics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the King William County Board of Supervisors hereby designates each of the above-named roads a Rural Rustic Road and requests that the Residency Administrator for the Virginia Department of Transportation concur in these designations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board requests each of the above-named roads be hard surfaced and, to the fullest extent prudent, be improved within the existing right of way and ditch-lines to preserve as much as possible the adjacent trees, vegetation, side slopes, and rural rustic character along each road in its current state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Virginia Department of Transportation Residency Administrator.

DONE this 25th day of September, 2023.

RESOLUTION 23-73
BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE KING WILLIAM COUNTY FY2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PLAN FOR ROLL-FORWARD OF FY2023 BROADBAND INITIATIVE APPROPRIATION

WHEREAS the King William County Board of Supervisors (Board) wishes to amend its Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Capital Improvement Plan to appropriate funds for use in the Broadband Initiative in the amount of \$2,500,000 from the FY2023 Capital Fund Balance; and

WHEREAS the balance of the Broadband Initiative-committed Capital Fund from FY23 of \$2,500,000 was not utilized in FY23 and is available to roll forward for appropriation for the Broadband Initiative in FY24;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the King William County Board of Supervisors does hereby authorize and appropriate the following amendments to the 2023-2024 Budget, such line items increased as follows, which monies shall be expended for purposes as authorized and approved by the Board:

FUND/ORGANIZATION

Capital Fund

Expenditure:

Broadband Initiative	\$ 2,500,000
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Revenue:

Roll forward FY2023 Capital Fund Balance for Broadband Initiative	\$ 2,500,000
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DONE this 25th day of September, 2023.

RESOLUTION 23-74

**COMMENDING LAURI A. BETTS ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM
KING WILLIAM COUNTY AND THE REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER**

WHEREAS Mrs. Lauri A. Betts has served as the Manager and Director of the Regional Animal Shelter for more than fifteen years; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Betts has given selflessly of her time, talent, and wisdom to serve King William County citizens; and

WHEREAS she has provided excellent and professional care to the animals entrusted to her supervision and has gone above the call of duty to ensure that every animal is given necessary attention and every citizen is treated fairly; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure, Mrs. Betts has overseen the Regional Animal Shelter from its inception and has worked to raise citizen awareness on pet safety and adoption, and

WHEREAS just some of Mrs. Betts' many accomplishments during her tenure with the Regional Animal Shelter include: partnering with Homeward Bound to help control the population of feral cats in the region through a Trap Neuter Return program; instituting the "Working Whiskers" cat adoption program to help cats not suitable as household pets find a home and eliminate the need for euthanasia of otherwise healthy cats; running multiple fun and successful pet adoption promotions throughout the year; helping pet parents find affordable options for spaying/neutering their pets and other veterinary care; establishing a pet food pantry to help residents affected by financial loss feed their pets so they don't have to deal with the added stress of surrendering them; providing volunteer opportunities for those interested in working with the animals; educating the public on the many considerations of pet ownership and how to provide proper care for them; helping to reunite numerous lost pets with their owners; and helping to start the Friends of King William Animal Shelter group;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of King William County extends its heartfelt appreciation for her many years of faithful service, and wishes Mrs. Lauri Betts a long, well-deserved, and pleasurable retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution expressing the sentiments of this Board of Supervisors be conveyed to Mrs. Lauri Betts and shall be spread upon the meeting minutes of said Board of Supervisors.

DONE this the 25th day of September, 2023.

AGENDA ITEM 8. PRESENTATIONS

8.a. Resolution 23-74 - Commending Lauri A. Betts on the Occasion of her Retirement from King William County and the Regional Animal Shelter

Supervisor Moskalski read the resolution and the Board and Mr. Hudgins presented Ms. Betts with a printed copy.

8.b. Resolution 23-66 - Domestic Violence Awareness Month - Tiffany M. Webb, Commonwealth's Attorney

Tiffany Webb presented information regarding domestic violence including the history and purpose of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Attachment A).

Chairman Hodges asked if there has been a dramatic increase in strangulations. Ms. Webb said she does not think there is a dramatic increase in occurrences, however, there has been a change in the law and people are more aware of the issue so more are being reported.

Vice Chair Garber asked what happens if someone goes through the first-time offender program and then later reoffends. Ms. Webb said it still shows up on their criminal history and they do not get a second chance in the program.

Chairman Hodges said someone convicted of domestic violence can lose their weapons and the right to have them permanently.

Supervisor Moskalski read the resolution and the Board presented Ms. Webb with a printed copy.

8.c. VDOT Quarterly Update - Lee McKnight, Residency Administrator, VDOT Saluda Residency

Mr. McKnight presented his quarterly report and gave an update on the Spring Cottage Road project and bridge closure at the county line. Bids for the project will go out in the fall and construction will begin in Spring 2024. The bridge requires a full superstructure replacement.

Mr. McKnight updated Board members on some of their individual requests:

Supervisor Moskalski: Regarding flooding on VFW Road, the water level is receding after the railroad unclogged a drainage pipe.

Vice Chair Garber: Acquinton Church Road is being reviewed again after the recent fatality. VDOT will automatically review all the conditions at the time of the accident, geometric situation on the road, driver impairments, speed limits, etc. After review, they will provide their recommendations.

Mr. McKnight confirmed that the Board of Supervisors cannot regulate or dictate speed limits, only VDOT can.

Chairman Hodges asked about the manhole covers in West Point. Mr. McKnight said it is an ongoing conversation with the utility department over who is responsible.

Vice Chair Garber asked about paving on Manquin Farms Road. Mr. McKnight said it is not on the current schedule but he will put it on for future consideration.

Mr. McKnight said King William submitted three Smart Scale projects and two were selected for funding through the program. This is the state's largest funding source for transportation projects and it does not require a match from the locality. The two projects that were approved were the King William 360/611 Venter Road project to lengthen and add turn lanes, and the 360/647 Mill Road turn lane extension project. He said Smart Scale is an annual process and a meeting was set for the following day to begin consideration of the next round of funding.

AGENDA ITEM 9. CITIZENS COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Hodges opened the Citizen's Comment period.

Brian Garthright of District 5 prayed and read Scripture. He said the Bible contains the original first amendment rules.

There being no further speakers, Chairman Hodges closed the Citizen's Comment period.

AGENDA ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS

10.a Revise Job Description & Title for Economic Development Staff Person - Nita McInteer, Human Resources Director

Nita McInteer discussed the challenges in attracting candidates for the EDA Director position. During their last meeting, the EDA agreed to change the job description and title in an effort to attract more candidates.

Chairman Hodges asked if any of the current applicants would be considered for this position. Ms. McInteer said it is not what the candidates were looking for but she was hopeful some with less experience would consider it.

Vice Chair Garber made a motion to approve the new job description and title change as presented. Supervisor Moskalski seconded the motion. The Chairman called for any discussion.

Supervisor Greenwood said the position should be put on hold and no hiring should be done.

Chairman Hodges said he wants to get it going and we can't succeed if we don't try.

The members were polled:

Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski	Aye
Supervisor, 3rd District: Stephen K. Greenwood	Nay
Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr. – Vice Chair	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: William L. Hodges – Chair	Aye

The motion passed.

10.b. Resolution 23-68 - Authorizing County Administrator to Sign All Deeds & Documents Conveying Real Property to King William County from King William County School Board - Percy C. Ashcraft, County Administrator

Mr. Ashcraft presented a resolution from the King William County School Board transferring approximately 27 acres of school property adjacent to Hamilton-Holmes Middle School to King William County for recreation purposes.

Supervisor Moskalski made a motion to approve Resolution 23-68; Vice Chair Garber seconded the motion. The Chairman called for any discussion.

Vice Chair Garber thanked the School Board and said they have been working on this for over a year.

Chairman Hodges said the Raiders organization has never had a home and this is great news.

Supervisor Moren asked if the property would be managed by Parks & Rec and if so, would additional staff be required. Mr. Ashcraft said that the county would take over maintenance. The decision as to who would perform the maintenance has not been decided yet. Supervisor Moren said the Raiders is a great program for youth.

Ms. Branch said a correction to the resolution adding the date of the School Board's public hearing, August 15, 2023, to line 17 was required.

Supervisor Moskalski restated his motion as approving Resolution 23-68~~R~~ as amended; Vice Chair Garber restated his second. The Chairman called for any discussion. The members were polled:

Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski	Aye
Supervisor, 3rd District: Stephen K. Greenwood	Aye
Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr. – Vice Chair	Aye
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: William L. Hodges – Chair	Aye

RESOLUTION 23-68R
AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN ALL DEEDS AND DOCUMENTS
CONVEYING REAL PROPERTY TO KING WILLIAM COUNTY FROM
THE KING WILLIAM COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

WHEREAS Resolution #11-38, adopted by the King William County Board of Supervisors (the Board) on November 21, 2011 authorizes the County Administrator to accept deeds conveying real property or interest therein; and

WHEREAS Resolution #11-38 requires the County Administrator to inform the Board in advance of any conveyances of a non-routine nature (e.g., not a utility easement or utility parcel); and

WHEREAS the Board is hereby informed that the King William County School Board wishes to convey to the County of King William approximately 27 acres of land identified as portions of County Tax Map #s 37-19, 37-25A, and 37-57A (the Property) as shown, outlined, and shaded on the attached diagram of the Property, the precise boundaries of which will be determined by survey prior to such conveyance; and

WHEREAS the King William County School Board held a duly advertised public hearing **at its August 15, 2023 meeting and**, at its September 19, 2023 meeting ~~and~~ passed a Resolution declaring the Property to be surplus to its needs and stating its intention to convey the Property to King William County; and

WHEREAS the King William County School Board desires to exchange the Property for the same amount of acreage of real property to be acquired as part of a larger tract by the County in the future for school needs; and

WHEREAS the conveyance of the Property is to expand playing fields and recreation opportunities for the citizens of King William County as outlined in the County's Comprehensive Plan, Blueprint 2041;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the King William County Board of Supervisors that the County Administrator is hereby authorized to act on behalf of King William County in accepting any and all deeds purporting to convey any interest in real estate associated with the proposed conveyance by the King William County School Board for the Property and that the County Administrator is authorized to evidence such acceptance by signing a statement of acceptance appearing on the face of any and all such deeds or by signing a separately recorded instrument, provided that any such deed or instrument is approved as to form by the County Attorney or other qualified attorney selected by this Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the conveyance of the Property to it shall be in exchange for the acquisition and conveyance by the County to the School Board of the same amount of acreage at some time in the future for use by the School Board for educational purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the County Administrator shall not take any of the actions set forth above unless and until the County and the School Board have entered into a mutually acceptable agreement for the use, operation, maintenance, and payment of future expenses incurred in connection with the Property.

DONE this 25th day of September, 2023.

AGENDA ITEM 11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

11.a. Administration Report - Percy C. Ashcraft, County Administrator

Mr. Ashcraft presented his report and pointed out dates of note.

Supervisor Moren asked the status of the Logo contest. Ms. Branch said there is a clear winner and details were being finalized before an announcement could be made.

Supervisor Greenwood said he would like to see a financial report or an update at the next Board meeting. Mr. Ashcraft said staff are working with the auditors now and are hoping to present the completed audit by the end of year. They may be able to present something at the next meeting.

At Supervisor Greenwood's request, Mr. Ashcraft explained the difference between the current Social Services Advisory Board and the former Social Services Board. The main difference is that the current board has no authority or power and acts in an advisory capacity only.

AGENDA ITEM 12. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' REQUESTS

Supervisor Greenwood said he was not invited to the recent candidate debate and wants people to know that he is running as a write-in. He thanked people for coming.

Supervisor Moskalski said he is still concerned about Broadband. He spoke with his contact at Dominion regarding the 'make ready process' and it lines up with what APB reported. He said there is still a lot of work to be done before anyone gets hooked up and urged the Board to keep reaching out to their contacts and stay on top of this thing.

Vice Chair Garber thanked everyone for coming and thanked the school board for conveying the land to the County. He clarified that he had given out the wrong date for the 65+ tax relief discussion, which will take place at the October 2nd Work Session.

Supervisor Moren said he continues to have weekly meetings with Breezeline and they are moving faster than anticipated. He said APB sent out their first flyer to residents and thanked Mr. Ashcraft for his efforts in working with the School Board on the land transfer.

Chairman Hodges alerted King William residents that we are expanding the water system in the county and there are a lot of other projects going on. He said there are many ways to stay informed about what is happening and folks just need to pay attention.

AGENDA ITEM 13. ADJOURN OR RECESS

Supervisor Greenwood made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Vice Chair Garber. The members were polled:

Supervisor, 3rd District: Stephen K. Greenwood	Aye
Supervisor, 4th District: C. Stewart Garber, Jr. – Vice Chair	Aye
Supervisor, 5th District: Edwin H. Moren, Jr.	Aye
Supervisor, 2nd District: Travis J. Moskalski	Aye
Supervisor, 1st District: William L. Hodges – Chair	Aye

COPY TESTE:

William L. Hodges, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

Christine H. Branch
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

King William County Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney

Tiffany M. Webb
Acting Commonwealth's Attorney



History and Purpose of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

- ▶ First observed in October 1981 as a national "Day of Unity".
- ▶ In 1989, October was declared as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- ▶ During this month, communities and advocacy organizations connect with the public and with one another to:
 - Acknowledge domestic violence survivors and be a voice for its victims. Domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality.
 - Raise awareness about the signs of abuse and ways to stop it.
 - Uplift survivor stories and provide additional resources to leaders and policymakers.

What is Domestic Violence?

- ▶ Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse, or financial abuse (using money and financial tools to exert control).
- ▶ Domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality.

A Domestic Violence Crime Occurs

- ▶ 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men experience severe physical violence by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime
- ▶ 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner — for a total of more than 12 million Americans per year
- ▶ Nationwide, an average of 3 women are killed by a current or former intimate partner every day.
- ▶ The VSTOP prosecutor for the King William County Commonwealth's Attorney Office prosecuted over 80 DV cases, 5 sexual assault cases, and 3 stalking cases in 2022.

Forms of Abuse

- **Physical Abuse** is a powerful way that an abusive person gets and keeps their partner under control, and it instills an environment of constant fear.
 - Physical violence may include hitting, punching, kicking, slapping, strangling, smothering, using or threatening to use weapons, shoving, interrupting your sleep, throwing things, destroying property, hurting or killing pets, and denying medical treatment.
- **Sexual Abuse** is the least discussed form of abuse, though it is common in most abusive relationships.
 - Sexual abuse may include physically forcing sex, making you feel fearful about saying no to sex, forcing sex with other partners, forcing you to participate in demeaning or degrading sexual acts, violence or name calling during sex, and denying contraception or protection from sexually transmitted diseases.

Forms of Abuse cont'd

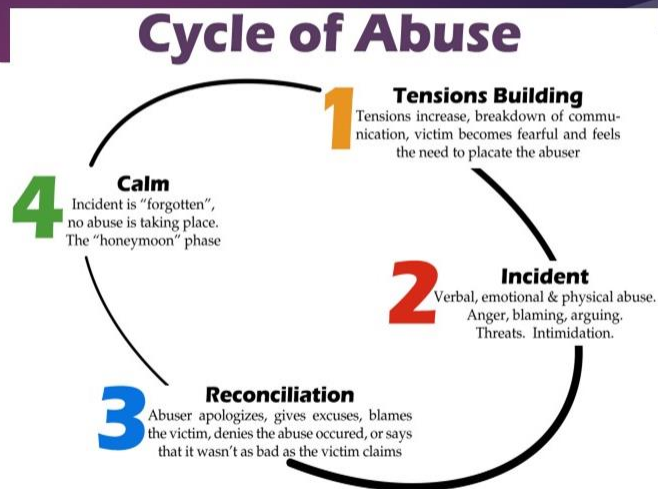
- **Emotional Abuse** is a tactic used by abusive partners to obtain power and control and it can cause extreme damage to the victim's self esteem. Commonly, emotional abuse makes the victim feel like they are responsible for the abuse and to feel crazy, worthless and hopeless.
 - Emotional abuse can include constant put downs or criticisms, name calling, "crazy making", acting superior, minimizing the abuse or blaming you for their behavior, threatening and making you feel fearful, isolating you from family and friends, excessive jealousy, accusing you of having affairs, and watching where you go and who you talk to.
- **Financial Abuse** is one of the least commonly known but one of the most powerful tactic of entrapping a victims in the relationship. It is so powerful that many victims of abuse describe it as the main reason that they stayed in an abusive relationship or went back to one.
 - Some forms of financial abuse includes giving an allowance, not letting a person have their own money, hiding family assets, running up debt, interfering with a person's job, and ruining credit.

"Red Flags" of Domestic Violence

- Wants to move too quickly into the relationship.
- Early in the relationship flatters you constantly and seems "too good to be true."
- Wants you all to him- or herself; insists that you stop spending time with your friends or family.
- Insists that you stop participating in hobbies or activities, quit school, or quit your job.
- Does not honor your boundaries.
- Is excessively jealous and accuses you of being unfaithful.
- Wants to know where you are all of the time and frequently calls, emails, and texts you throughout the day.
- Criticizes or puts you down; says you are crazy, stupid, and/or fat/unattractive, or that no one else would ever want or love you.
- Takes no responsibility for his or her behavior and blames others.
- Has a history of abusing others.
- Blames the entire failure of previous relationships on his or her former partner; for example, "My ex was totally crazy."
- Takes your money or runs up your credit card debt.
- Rages out of control with you but can maintain composure around others.

Cycle of Abuse

- The cycle of abuse is a four-stage cycle used to describe the way abuse sometimes occurs in relationships. The stages—tension, incident, reconciliation, and calm—repeat themselves over and over again if the abuse follows this pattern.



Power and Control Wheel

- ▶ The Power and Control Wheel diagram represents the tactics abusive partners use to keep survivors in a relationship.



Reasons Domestic Violence Victims Don't Leave

- ▶ **Fear**- perpetrator more violent if attempt to leave
 - ▶ "If you leave, I will kill you."
- ▶ **Isolated**- no support from family, friends, community
 - ▶ "You cannot go anywhere without me knowing."
 - ▶ "It can't be that bad, you need to work on your marriage."
- ▶ **Children**- safety, custody, financial support
 - ▶ "If you leave- I will take the kids and you won't see them."
- ▶ **Financial**- loss of income, home, vehicles
 - ▶ "You cannot survive without my income. The house and car are in my name."
- ▶ **Emotions**- love, hope, manipulation, intimidation, fear
 - ▶ "I love you; it won't happen again if you don't make me mad."

Anatomy of Domestic Violence Prosecution

- ▶ A crime occurs
- ▶ The crime is reported to a LEA
- ▶ The crime is investigated
- ▶ An arrest is made, and Protective Order issued (mandatory arrest in VA if a "predominant aggressor" can be established)
- ▶ Arraignment of Defendant
- ▶ Victim and Witness Outreach
- ▶ Trial Preparation
- ▶ Going to Trial or Plead Guilty/No Contest
- ▶ Outcome Options
 - "First Offender" Program
 - Plea agreement.
- Plead guilty to charge as presented: Court sentences after considering arguments of counsel—defendant can appeal JDR Court decision
- ▶ Appeals
- ▶ After Court
 - A protective order may be entered (in some cases must be entered).
 - Victims and their families receive counseling—if they want
 - Victims begin to rebuild their lives—often requires support from the community, victim advocates, and family
 - Hope that cycles of domestic violence are broken

First Offender Program

- ▶ "First Offender"—available for cases of Assault and Battery only and only when it is a true first offense.
- ▶ Two years of Probation
- ▶ Must complete an anger management or batterer's intervention course
- ▶ Must maintain peace and good behavior
- ▶ If successful, the case will be dismissed
- ▶ If not successful, the case is brought back before the Court for a finding of guilt and imposition of sentence

What Can I Do to Support DV Victims?

- **NEVER** blame the victim! Abuse is never the victim's fault.
- Hold offenders accountable.
- Challenge widely-held perceptions about DV.
- Voice that DV is an intersectional issue.
 - Domestic violence does not happen in a vacuum. Survivors often experience other "isms" (e.g., sexism, racism, classism, etc.), compounding the negative impacts and trauma of the abuse.
- Understand that abuse is rooted in power and control.
- Trust the survivor's perspective by prioritizing their needs and wants.
 - Often, abusers deny their partners' self-determination; empowering survivors returns their control and enables them to make their own decisions.
- Question the way the media portrays domestic violence.
- Communicate that DV is NOT a "private family matter".
- Remember DV affects all of us.

Resources Available to Victims of DV

- Victim/Witness Program – The King William Commonwealth's Attorney works directly with the Victim/Witness Program to contact victims as soon as possible after the crime occurs.
 - **Early and ongoing contact is the key to achieving effective prosecution outcomes.**
 - Early contact also:
 - Ensures the safety of victims and children.
 - Assist victims with criminal justice and/or protective order process.
 - Help victims meet any immediate needs for housing, medical care, or counseling.
 - Allows the prosecutor to learn the facts of the case early and help victims understand how the case may unfold.

Resources cont'd

➤ Protective Orders

- Emergency Protective Order automatically issued following a DV arrest. These Orders are good for 72 hours or until next Court date. A victim can petition the Court for additional protective orders.
- Preliminary Protective Orders are issued following an EPO and last until the hearing for the final PO, which is usually the trial date for the criminal matter.
- Permanent Protective Order can last for up to two years, and there is no limit to the number of extensions that can be granted by the Judge, so long as the threat remains.

*The petitioner and respondent must be present in order for a PPO to be issued.

➤ Hotlines

- Virginia Sexual & DV Action Alliance Hotline – (800) 838-8238
- National Domestic Violence Hotline – (800) 799-7233

Resources cont'd

➤ Community Agencies

- **Thrive Virginia** provides emergency and support services to empower survivors of intimate partner and sexual violence in New Kent, Charles City, King William, and King and Queen Counties, as well as the Town of West Point.
 - 24-hour crisis support (free and confidential) **877-966-HELP (4357)**
- **Bridges of Changes** is a non-profit DV shelter that provides free emergency shelter and wrap-around services to DV victims, to include victim advocacy and program referrals for things such as counseling, education, job skills, financial counseling, and permanent housing. Bridges of Change serves King William County and the surrounding areas.
- **Virginia Victim Assistance Network (VVAN)** is a statewide nonprofit organization with the mission to be a voice for crime victims and a resource for the providers who assist them.
- **Virginia Victim Fund** provides compensation to victims after all available collateral resources are used, including, but not limited to medical insurance, disability insurance, automobile insurance, court-ordered restitution and civil suits.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2023 Theme

➤ **#Every1KnowsSome1**

This theme strives to highlight how common domestic violence is and that it is more than physical violence.

➤ How can you observe National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

- Participate in an event.
- Take the community pledge to stand up against DV.
- Post on social media about this year's campaign.